

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04  
SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-05 OES-07 AGRE-00 ACDA-12  
CEQ-01 CG-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EPA-01  
SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 H-01 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03  
NSC-05 NSF-01 PA-01 PM-05 SS-15 ICA-11 /163 W  
-----070524 271605Z /75

R 271443Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6269  
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EEC, Y0, PU, SG, SP, MR, CA, SW, NO, CV, EFIS  
SUBJ: EC FISHERY COUNCIL, APRIL 24, 1978  
REFS: (A) BRUSSELS 7280; (B) BRUSSELS 2174 (NOTAL);  
(C) OSLO A-25 (NOTAL); (D) BRUSSELS 4557; (E) 77 BRUSSELS  
18320  
1. SUMMARY: FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS MONTH, THE EC  
FISHERY COUNCIL FAILED TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK OVER AN EC  
INTERNAL FISHING REGIME (REFS A AND B), WHICH IS NOW  
HOLDING UP ACTION ON THE EXTERNAL FISHING FRONT AS WELL.  
THE APRIL 24 COUNCIL SESSION HAD NOT BEEN ENVISAGED AS A  
DECISION-TAKING MEETING, BUT MANY EC COMMISSION AND MEMBER  
STATE PERMREP FISHERY OFFICIALS HAD HOPED THAT THE GENERAL  
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LINES OF A COMPROMISE ON AN INTERNAL REGIME MIGHT AT LEAST  
BE SKETCHED OUT. HOWEVER, UK UNWILLINGNESS TO MOVE FROM  
A HARDLINE POSITION MADE THIS IMPOSSIBLE. IN THE ABSENCE  
OF MOVEMENT ON THE INTERNAL FRONT, THE MINISTERS DID  
AGREE TO EXTEND FOR YET ANOTHER MONTH THE EXISTING INTERIM  
FISHING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NORWAY, SWEDEN, AND THE FAROE  
ISLANDS. THE MINISTERS AGREED TO SCHEDULE FURTHER

DISCUSSION OF FISHERY ISSUES ON MAY 22-23. END SUMMARY.

2. INTERNAL REGIME:

THE DEBATE OVER AN EC INTERNAL FISHING REGIME IS BECOMING THE LONGEST-RUNNING SHOW IN TOWN. NATIONAL POSITIONS HAVE NOT EVOLVED BEYOND THOSE EXPRESSED AT THE JAN.30-31 FISHERY COUNCIL, WHEN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE INTERNAL FRONT BROKE DOWN (REF A). AT THE APRIL 24 COUNCIL, THE UK DID NOT MOVE FROM ITS OFT-STATED INSISTENCE ON EXCLUSIVE ZONES AND DOMINANT PREFERENCE FOR BRITISH FISHERMEN, AND THE COUNCIL MADE NO ATTEMPT DURING ITS BRIEF MEETING TO DEVELOP NEW LINES FOR A COMPROMISE. THE MINISTERS DID AGREE THAT EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH SHOULD UNDERTAKE A NEW ROUND OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN MEMBER STATE CAPITALS, PREPARATORY TO RENEWED COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE INTERNAL REGIME MAY 22-23.

3. EXTERNAL REGIME:

THE COUNCIL TOOK NO ACTION ON THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING APPROVAL OF FRAMEWORK FISHING AGREEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED WITH SWEDEN, NORWAY, AND THE FAROE ISLANDS. (THE COUNCIL HAD BEEN ASKED TO RATIFY THE FAROESE AND SWEDISH AGREEMENTS, WHICH WERE SIGNED IN MARCH 1977, AND TO BOTH RATIFY AND AGREE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIGNATURE OF THE NORWEGIAN AGREEMENT - COPIES BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND OSLO). THE COUNCIL ALSO DEFERRED ACTION ON THE PROPOSED 1978 EC/NORWAY FISHING QUOTA AGREEMENT (REF C). IN HIS REMARKS TO THE COUNCIL, GUNDELACH HIMSELF ACKNOWLEDGED THE LINK WHICH HAS COME TO EXIST BETWEEN PROGRESS ON THE INTERNAL REGIME AND AGREEMENT TO LONG-TERM THIRD COUNTRY FISHING ARRANGEMENTS IN COMMUNITY WATERS. PERMREP FISHERY OFFICIALS CONFIRM THAT THE UK HAS PARTICULAR PROBLEMS, IN THIS REGARD, WITH THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR DIVISION OF THE COMMUNITY QUOTA IN NORWEGIAN WATERS; THE UK INSISTS THAT THESE PROPOSALS DO NOT ADEQUATELY COMPENSATE BRITISH FISHERMEN FOR THEIR LOSSES THROUGH EXCLUSION FROM OTHER THIRD COUNTRY WATERS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE GREATER PART OF EC FISH QUOTAS BEING OFFERED NORWAY (AND ALSO THE FAROES) COME FROM THE BRITISH PART OF THE COMMUNITY'S 200-MILE ZONE. THE MINISTERS ULTIMATELY AGREED THAT THE CURRENT INTERIM MEASURES GOVERNING ACCESS TO COMMUNITY WATERS BY NORWEGIAN, SWEDISH, AND FAROESE VESSELS (REF D) SHOULD BE EXTENDED THROUGH MAY 31.

4. ACCORDING TO A COMMISSION FISHERY OFFICIAL, GUNDELACH ALSO REPORTED TO THE COUNCIL ON THE FOLLOWING EXTERNAL

FISHERY ISSUES:

(A) CANADA:

THE COMMUNITY IS ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES OVER CANADIAN  
INSISTENCE THAT A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT SHOULD INCLUDE  
LANGUAGE REFERRING TO CANADA'S "SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES"  
FOR CONTROLLING FISHING ACTIVITY IN GEOGRAPHICAL  
POSITIONS BEYOND 200 MILES FROM THE CANADIAN COAST (GRAND  
BANKS AND FLEMISH CAP). THE EC DOES NOT CONSIDER THAT  
THIS DEMAND IS TENABLE OR THAT IT IS CONSISTENT WITH BASIC  
LOS PRINCIPLES. THE COMMUNITY ALSO OBJECTS TO A CANADIAN  
PROPOSAL THAT ANY AGREEMENT CONTAIN A COMMERCIAL CLAUSE,  
LINKING EC ACCESS TO CANADIAN WATERS TO EXPANDED ACCESS  
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TO THE EC MARKET FOR CANADIAN FISH PRODUCTS. COMMUNITY

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R 271443Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6270

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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CONSIDERS FISHERY AND TRADE ISSUES TO BE COMPLETELY  
SEPARATE.

(B) YUGOSLAVIA:

YUGOSLAVS HAVE STILL NOT REPLIED TO THE COMMUNITY REQUEST  
FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON A FISHING AGREEMENT TO REPLACE THE  
BILATERAL ITALIAN/YUGOSLAV AGREEMENT WHICH EXPIRED  
AT THE END OF 1977 (REF E).

(C) SPAIN:

THE COMMISSION HOPES THAT AN AGREEMENT CAN BE CONCLUDED  
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SOON. PROBLEMS REMAIN OVER THE LEGAL FORMULATION  
REGARDING TREATMENT OF EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS  
WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A NEW FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. THE  
COMMUNITY WANTS IN PARTICULAR TO ENSURE THAT SPANISH  
RIGHTS UNDER THE BILATERAL FRENCH/SPANISH AGREEMENT ARE  
INCORPORATED IN THE OVERALL AGREEMENT; THIS SAME POINT  
APPLIES TO THE 1964 LONDON CONVENTION, UNDER WHICH, IN THE  
WAKE OF EXTENSION OF NATIONAL WATERS FROM 3 TO 12 WATERS,  
SPANISH VESSELS WERE ALLOWED TO FISH WITHIN 12 MILES OF  
COASTS IN AREAS (NOW PART OF THE COMMUNITY ZONE) WHERE  
THEY HAD HISTORICAL FISHING RIGHTS. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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